

NEWS RELEASE

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Secretary Norton Announces New Appointments to BLM Resource Advisory Council in Arizona

Interior Secretary Gale Norton announced today the appointment of several new and current members to Arizona's citizen-based Resource Advisory Council (RAC) that advises the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on public land issues.

"We welcome our new and reappointed members to the Resource Advisory Council and commend them for their commitment," Norton said. "I look forward to their advice and recommendations as we work together to improve the health and productivity of our public lands."

The BLM's Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the agency carry out its stewardship of 261 million acres of public lands. The Bureau, which manages more land than any other Federal agency, has 24 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located.

"The work of the Resource Advisory Councils is a prime example of Cooperative Conservation," Norton noted. "This unique partnership strengthens our management efforts and helps to promote citizen stewardship."

"RAC members come from a variety of backgrounds and bring a wide range of perspectives to each of the Arizona RAC," said BLM Arizona State Director Elaine Zielinski. "This diversity results in a balanced outlook that helps the BLM carry out its multiple-use mission in Arizona," which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses."

The RAC appointments include: 1) Stephen Sway from Sierra Vista, representing Off-Highway Vehicle Use, 2) Frances Werner from Tucson, representing Dispersed Recreation, 3) Glendon Collins from Phoenix, representing Dispersed Recreation, 4) Dr. Larry Howery from Tucson, representing Academia, and 5) Richard Lunt is from Duncan and is a Greenlee County Supervisor for District 3. He will represent the Elected Official position on the RAC. The terms of the five appointments are for three years (2003-2006).

"I am very pleased with Secretary Norton's appointments," Zielinski said. "As BLM's advisor, the RAC has worked diligently on numerous issues and paved the way for more effective on-the-ground land management, while helping to build strong partnerships between BLM and its constituencies."

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Following is a complete list of the RAC members, the category they represent and their place of residence.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Term</u>
Thomas Kelly	Commodity/Grazing	Wickenburg	9/2006
Lee Aitken	Commodity/Transportation/ROW	Tucson	9/2007
Sandra McCullen	Commodity/Off-Road Vehicle Use	Mesa	9/2006
Carolyn Loder	Commodity/Energy/Minerals	Tempe	9/2007
**Stephen Saway	Commodity/Off-Road Vehicle Use	Sierra Vista	9/2008
William Branan	Non-Commodity/Environmental	Elgin	9/2007
Jan Holder	Non-Commodity/Dispersed Recreation	Safford	9/2007
Tina Clark	Non-Commodity/Historical/Archaeology	Yuma	9/2006
**Glendon Collins	Non-Commodity/Dispersed Recreation	Phoenix	9/2008
**Frances Werner	Non-Commodity/Dispersed Recreation	Tucson	9/2008
Lorraine Euler	Local Area/Public-At-Large	Glendale	9/2006
Peggy Titus	Local Area/Public-At-Large	Mayer	9/2006
Jay Adkins	Local Area/Public-At-Large	Goodyear	9/2007
*Richard Lunt	Local Area/Elected Official	Duncan	9/2008
*Larry Howery	Local Area/Academician	Tucson	9/2009

***Newly Appointed and **Reappointed RAC Members**

The next meeting of the Arizona RAC is scheduled for December 6, 2005, at the BLM Arizona State Office located at One North Central Avenue on the 8th floor. For more information on the Arizona RAC, please contact Deborah Stevens at 602-417-9504.